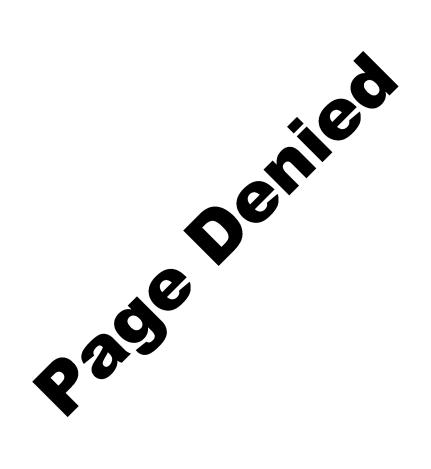
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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW



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A soldier's pay in Austria amounted to 40 Austrian schillings per month, 1	O of which
were deducted to pay for State loan subscriptions. A Sgt's pay was 40 Aus	trian sch
and 55 rubles were credited to his account in a savings bank in the USSR.	

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45. No opportunities were available during the Army service to obtain better education or to learn a trade.

46. Each unit has a library but the majority of books dealt with political questions and

were not much in demand.

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- 47. A mobile cinema visited units once or twice per month.
- 48. "Stalinski Boyets", "Krashaya Zvezda", "Pravda", "Komsomolskaya Pravda" and "Za Chesti Rodyini" were available at the unit.
- 49. The Zampolit was the officer who concerned himself with the welfare of the soldiers. By the nature of his calling he inspired little confidence in the rank and file, because a political inference was deduced from all complaints.
- 50. The Zampolit would ask generally how family conditions were at home. Some soldier would get up and relate that he had learned from letters from home that his mother was starving since he, her only support had been called up. The Zampolit would take his particulars and write to the authorities at the soldier's home. Later the Zampolit would read the reply received that the mother was well taken care of. Whereupon the soldier would throw his mother's letters at the Zampolit and tell him to read them himself. Anybody involved in such a scene would disappear from the unit and no information as to his whereabouts would be given.
- 52. a soldier received a letter in which his mother complained of her poverty. The soldier used this letter for agitation amongst his comrades; he was court-martialled and sentenced to seven years detention. It was mostly when letters arrived from home that soldiers used to get drunk to drown their sorrows.
- 53. The general attitude is one of mutual contempt. The soldier despises the officer because he considers him responsible for the complete lack of freedom which is his lot. In theory the same restrictions apply to both officers and ORs, yet the officers have their messes and have opportunities to leave the barracks and the ORs know that many officers are arrested and sent to the USA because of their association with Austrian girls. This lack of opportunity irks the ORs more than anything else.

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